

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Stubblebine

April 20, 2001

Serial No.: Cont. of 09/689859

Group Art Unit: Unassigned

Filed: Herewith

Examiner: Unassigned

For: SPECIFYING SECURITY PROTOCOLS AND POLICY CONSTRAINTS IN  
DISTRIBUTED SYSTEMS

B

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

#7/Pete Averett B  
J. Maynor  
3/31/02

Honorable Assistant Commissioner  
of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231  
Sir:

Please amend the above-identified continuation application as follows. No new matter is added.

**I. IN THE CLAIMS**

Please CANCEL claim 1.

Please ADD the following NEW claims:

52. (NEW) A method for system security in distributed systems, comprising the steps of:

a) deriving freshness constraints from initial policy assumptions and an authentic statement;

b) imposing freshness constraints by employing recent-secure authenticating principals to effect revocation; and

c) verifying that a relation  $|t_{now} - t_{time\ stamp}| \leq \delta$  is satisfied for verification of a secure channel, where  $t_{time\ stamp}$  being a time of a time stamp pertaining to a validity assertion of a particular assertion,  $\delta$  being a minimum necessary freshness constraint pertaining to the particular assertion and  $t_{now}$  being the time of verification.